

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GWERTZMAN ARTICLE

1. JUNE 15 FRONT PAGE NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE BY BERNARD
GWERTZMAN HEADLINED "SOVIET IS SAID TO HAVE WARNED US OF
RETALIATION IN ARREST OF RUSSIANS" FOLLOWS:

2. "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES SAID TODAY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER
ANDREI A. GROMYKO WARNED SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE
TWO WEEKS AGO THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD SOON RETALIATE
AGAINST AMERICANS IN MOSCOW UNLESS THE UNITED STATES
RELEASED TWO SOVIET EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS BEING
HELD ON ESPIONAGE CHARGES.

3. "ACCORDING TO AN AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE VANCE-
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GROMYKO MEETING, WHICH WAS IN NEW YORK ON MAY 31, MR.
GROMYKO RAISED STRONG OBJECTIONS TO WHAT HE AND OTHER
RUSSIANS CHARGED WAS A VIOLATION OF AN UNOFFICIAL UNDER-
STANDING IN RECENT YEARS THAT ALLEGED ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY
COMMITTED BY EACH AGAINST THE OTHER WOULD NOT BE SUBJECTED
TO EXCESSIVE PUBLICITY.

4. "MR. GROMYKO SAID, ACCORDING TO THE ACCOUNT MADE AVAILABLE TODAY, THAT THE UNITED STATES, IN KEEPING WITH RECENT

PRACTICE, SHOULD ALLOW THE SOVIET CITIZENS TO LEAVE THE UNITED STATES, OR AT THE MINIMUM BE FREED ON REASONABLE BAIL PENDING TRIAL.

5. "OTHERWISE, HE REPORTEDLY CAUTIONED, 'TWO CAN PLAY THE SAME GAME.' AS A RESULT, AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAD BEEN WAITING FOR THE RETALIATION TO OCCUR, AND IT APPARENTLY BEGAN ON MONDAY IN MOSCOW IN TWO EPISODES AND MAY NOT BE OVER YET.

6. "THE FIRST INCIDENT THE DISCLOSURE BY IZVESTIA, THE GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, OF THE DETENTION NEARLY A YEAR AGO OF MARTHA PETERSON, A VICE CONSUL OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, ON ESPIONAGE CHARGES.

7. "MRS. PETERSON, WHO WAS SAID BY OFFICIALS HERE TO BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENT, WAS PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE SOVIET UNION WITHOUT PUBLICITY.

8. "IN THE ARTICLE, IZVESTIA SAID THAT AMBASSADOR TOON HAD ASKED FOR SECRECY ABOUT THE INCIDENT AND THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD 'FOUND IT POSSIBLE TO KEEP THE INCIDENT FROM PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.'

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9. "BUT THE ARTICLE SAID THAT, INSTEAD OF FOLLOWING THIS PRACTICE, THE UNITED STATES RECENTLY 'SANCTIONED THE SCANDAL OVER "SOVIET ESPIONAGE.'" THIS WAS SIMILAR TO THE LINE OF ARGUMENT USED BY MR. GROMYKO.

10. "OFFICIALS SAID THAT DESPITE MR. GROMYKO'S WARNING NOTHING WAS DONE TO ALERT AMERICANS IN MOSCOW BECAUSE IT WAS NOT KNOWN PRECISELY WHAT THE RUSSIANS MIGHT DO.

11. "THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT WAS THE ARREST ON MONDAY NIGHT BY THE SOVIET POLICE OF F. JAY CRAWFORD, A SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER, A FARM AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT COMPANY WITH A LONG AND ACTIVE TRADE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

12. "MR. CRAWFORD WAS ARRESTED WHILE HE WAS IN HIS CAR WITH HIS FIANCEE AND STOPPED AT A TRAFFIC LIGHT. HE WAS PULLED FROM THE CAR AND TAKEN BY THE POLICE DIRECTLY TO PRISON, REPORTEDLY ON CURRENCY VIOLATION CHARGES.

13. THE ARREST OF MR. CRAWFORD WAS REGARDED BY OFFICIALS HERE AS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE CONTINUED DETENTION OF THE

TWO SOVIET EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE HARSH MANNER IN WHICH HE WAS SEIZED WAS ALSO SEEN HERE AS A SIGNAL TO WASHINGTON THAT THE SOVIET UNION WAS READY TO RESPOND IN A TOUGH MANNER.

14. "OFFICIALS HERE SAID THAT THEY HAD NO IDEA WHY MR. CRAWFORD HAD BEEN SINGLED OUT.

15. "THERE WAS AN ASSUMPTION BY STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS THAT THE RULING POLITBURO OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY HAD GIVEN THE SOVIET SECURITY POLICE, THE KGB, AUTHORITY TO ARREST

AMERICANS NOT HAVING DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY AS DIRECT RETALIATION FOR THE ARREST OF THEIR CITIZENS.
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16. "LINK TO US ARRESTS IS SEEN.

"ONE OFFICIAL SAID THAT HE DOUBTED THAT EITHER THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OR THE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY HAD A CHOICE AS TO WHICH AMERICAN WOULD BE ARRESTED. 'IF THEY HAD, I'M SURE THEY WOULDN'T HAVE PICKED INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER, ONE OF THE STRONGEST VOICES FOR SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE IN THIS COUNTRY,' THE OFFICIAL SAID.

17. "SOME OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY EXPECTED THAT THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT ARREST ONE OR MORE ADDITIONAL AMERICANS. THEY ALSO SAID THEY EXPECTED FURTHER REVELATIONS SOON ABOUT OTHER AMERICAN ESPIONAGE INCIDENTS IN THE PAST TO COUNTER THE PUBLICITY GIVEN NOT ONLY TO THE ARREST OF THE TWO RUSSIANS BUT ALSO TO THE DISCOVERY LATE LAST MONTH OF ELABORATE SOVIET LISTENING DEVICES IN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

18. "THE TWO SOVIET EMPLOYEES UNDER DETENTION ARE RUDOLF P. CHERNYAYEV AND VALDIK A. ENGER, WHO WERE ARRESTED ON MAY 20 IN A SHOPPING CENTER IN WOODBRIDGE, N.J.

19. "AS EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, NEITHER MR. CHERNYAYEV NOR MR. ENGER IS ENTITLED TO DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. A COMPANION WHO WAS SEIZED WITH THEM, VLADIMIR P. ZINYAKIN, WAS ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE SOVIET MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND AS SUCH HAD DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY." CHRISTOPHER

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